GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7584
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
REPLACEMENT OF MARR SYSTEM
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY;RUDRAGOUDA PATIL;SHIVAJI MANE;SUKDEO PASWAN;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Governmenthave any proposal to replace the highly fault prone Multi Access Rural Radio (MARR) system with Wireless in Local Loop(WLL) system for Village Public Telephone(VPT):

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the financial implications involved therein;

(d) whether the private sector companies are proposed to be involved therein;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

a, b & c : Yes Sir, while every possible attempt is being made to maintain MARR systems at a reasonable level of dependability, those which are found difficult to maintain due to lack of servicing and repair support from original manufacturers or for any other reasons, will be progressively replaced. Some of the new technologies for rural Telephony are Wireless in Local Loop, TDMA/PMP of C-DOT, Satellite based telephone etc.Financial implications shall be worked out at the time of replacement depending upon the technology used.

d, e & f : No Sir, the private sector Companies are to meet their own obligations of providing Village Public Telephones as per their licence agreements. In all 6 licencees have to provide 97,806 VPTs within the first three years of their operation.Meetings have been held with the licencees to make them comply with their commitments.